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11 August 1965

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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Office of Current Intelligence

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
11 August 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Review of Insurgency Problems

1. Thailand

The second skirmish in two weeks between government forces and suspected Communist subversives occurred in northeastern Nakhon Phanom Province on 8 August. According to preliminary reports, a 50-man police contingent was attacked by an unspecified number of terrorists, who killed one policeman and seriously wounded the provincial police chief, a key figure in the government's counterinsurgency program in the province. Dissident casualties have not been reported.

A similar clash--the first noted in northeast Thailand--took place in the same general area on 22 July. There were no casualties on that occasion.

2. Ecuador

Ecuadorean subversives received a severe blow early on 6 August when Guayaquil police apprehended the notorious Jaime Galarza, some of his men, and 20 weapons which they were apparently transporting to the countryside. The Cuban-trained Galarza had recently been reported preparing again to launch guerrilla operations; his earlier efforts had failed, and his own capture may finish his Victory-or-Death terrorist organization.

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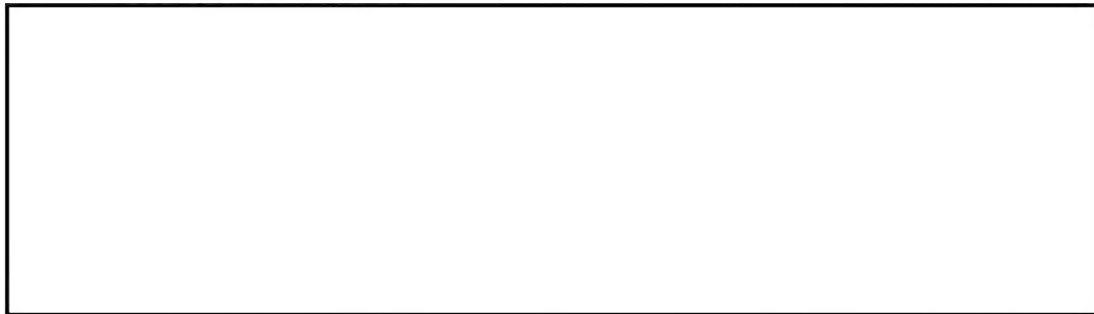
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3. Venezuela



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Urban terrorism has subsided since the outbreaks in Caracas during 28-30 July. Havana radio has alleged that a sizable government antiguerrilla operation is taking place in eastern Venezuela, and reports of sporadic guerrilla activity in western Venezuela continue to be received.

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5. Colombia

Members of the Communist Front student federation, FUN, may organize demonstrations and possibly more serious disorders to protest the 9 August arrest of leftist renegade priest Camilio Torres in Medellin. Students in Bogota on 10 August stoned the car in which the US Naval Mission chief was riding.

Torres, who has been relieved of his priestly duties but not defrocked by Colombian Cardinal Concha, has made a series of public statements urging replacement of the present government system with Marxist-based psuedosocialism, by force "if necessary." He was arrested when he attempted to hold a mass meeting in spite of the express prohibition of such activity under the state of siege.

Army intervention was necessary during the student riots in the last two weeks of May which precipitated the declaration of the state of siege. The May riots were also provoked by an incident in Medellin. [REDACTED]

6. Peru

After a period of relative inactivity during late July, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) has stepped up its guerrilla offensive in east-central Junin and Huancavelica departments, and may have opened a new front in the southern Department of Cuzco.

On 9 August guerrillas, aided by scores of Indian peasants, ambushed a civil guard detachment some 25 miles east of Satipo in Junin Department. At least three policemen were killed in the encounter. The detachment had been sent to investigate the killing of four persons by MIR-led Indians the previous day at the village of Kubantia.

Thirty additional civil guardsmen and 270 army rangers have been sent to Satipo to reinforce units already there. Terrified hacienda owners in the area reportedly are planning to abandon their homes and move to town for protection.

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[REDACTED]

Some 50 MIR-led Indian peasants also attacked a hacienda in nearby Huancavelica Department early this week, stealing cattle and wounding the owners. There are also unconfirmed press reports that a police post has been attacked by "extremists" in the Santa Ana district of Cuzco Department, and on 31 July a bridge was destroyed in the same area, presumably by MIR guerrillas. If these reports are correct, it would suggest that the MIR has launched its long-anticipated offensive in the south.

The alarming participation of numerous Indians in the recent raids and ambushes suggests that MIR has greater ability to detonate explosive Indian discontent than was heretofore believed, and to utilize the peasants for subversion.

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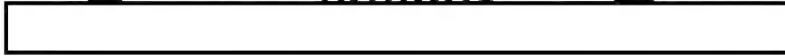
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